

re-aligned, or re-assembled to obey the physical relationship of elements taught by the unobvious structure of my back-up mirror system, the cited references are not capable of performing the function of the current invention, nor anticipate it. Only with hindsight and unobvious physical reconfiguration of their structure of elements could prior art begin to resemble the present back-up mirror system structure.

The Applicant reiterates that the geometric structure of the relatively placed combination of elements of the current back-up mirror invention is novel and has not been anticipated in prior art:

1. The prior art do not show all of the novel physical features of the present invention, including teaching use of left- and right-looking back-up mirrors for viewing both directions of oncoming cross-traffic, and teaching the use of a slightly convex reflecting element for wider-angle viewing (some prior art specified concave).

2. The novel physical structure of elements in the current back-up mirror system produces new, beneficial, and unexpected results and solves a long-felt, unsolved need; since no prior art has been shown to rely on this novel structure, it is hence unobvious and patentable over the references. Just because the present back-up mirror system relies on mirrors mounted inside a vehicle compartment does not mean that prior art making use of interior-mounted mirrors has anticipated the present physical structure nor solved the present problem. The present invention differs by relying on a structure whose geometry is dependent upon the back-up mirror's location relative to the driver's seat and relative to the rear-view mirror and its reflecting

relationship relative to the lane containing nearby oncoming cross-traffic, resulting in a novel alignment and structure of elements.

The present back-up mirror invention solves a need for greater safety when backing-up into a lane or lanes of cross traffic. Prior art do not teach a structure which solves this need. The present novel structure has an alignment of elements which has not been shown to be relied upon, nor adequately shown to be anticipated by, prior art references; nor has the present problem been anticipated by the cited prior art.

The present invention offers an improvement and safety advance. In spite of the seeming simplicity of the present invention, it appears to be unobvious to car-safety design engineers who have not been shown to have manufactured the present structure of inexpensive elements into their vehicles for the result of a driver seeing an alternative view of nearby oncoming cross-traffic before backing-up; yet complicated electronic systems to sense objects behind passenger vehicles have been for sale on new vehicles in the last 3 or more years which try to address the safety problems of backing-up.

Request for Claim Drafting Assistance

In view of prior Amendments and Responses to O.A.'s, and the present Amendment, the Applicant pro se solicits reconsideration of merit, and resubmits that patentable subject matter is clearly present. If the examiner agrees that the cancelled claims 1-9 were technically inadequate, the Applicant respectfully, sincerely, requests that the examiner write an acceptable claim(s) pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j).

The Applicant submits that the physical structure of the present system of mirrors, including its back-up mirror mounting location slightly aft of or even with the second row's seatbacks is unobvious, and not anticipated, and is unexpected. (See Applicant's FIG.1, location of back-up mirror (6)). The present mirror system relies on its back-up mirror to be mounted substantially away from the rear end of the vehicle, and aft of the faces of second-row passengers, which physical mounting position is not taught, suggested, or anticipated by the structure of prior art, it also relies on its back-up mirror reflecting-surface to be physically aimed substantially horizontally. These are but two physical distinctions submitted to be of patentable merit under Section 103.

The Applicant submits, as previously, that there are numerous prior art structures in this class (using mirrors for vehicles), making it a crowded art, and the step forward represented by the present invention should be regarded as useful and significant, since it is an improvement to help reduce the frequency of property damage and bodily injuries caused by collisions between oncoming cross-traffic and backing-up vehicles whose drivers' views were otherwise blocked.

Conclusion:

The Applicant pro se has herein requested amendments to the Claims of this Application. The Application recites a novel structure of elements that is physically different from prior art, which structure produces unobvious results, and meets an unsolved, long-felt need for a simple and inexpensive system to improve driver

safety when backing-up their passenger vehicle into lane(s) of cross-traffic by providing an alternative view to the driver; the physical distinctions of the present novel structure are of patentable merit under Section 103. The Applicant wishes to place this application in full condition for allowance as soon as possible.

Very Respectfully,

William L. Morrison

William L. Morrison, Applicant Pro Se

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On 2003 July 30

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